GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:559
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
SEIZURE MADE BY CUSTOMS
SUKENDER REDDY GUTHA

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Indian Customs officials have confiscated any illegal material in international airports and seaports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which these materials are likely to be disposed of;

(d) whether Members of Parliament are also being informed about the venue of auction; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (REVENUE)IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b) : Yes, sir. Any goods imported or exported in contravention of the provisions of Customs Act, 1962 are liable for seizure and confiscation.

(c): The seized goods, get confiscated through due process of law, i.e., after issue of show cause notice, and personal hearing etc. The confiscated goods, after expiry of appeal/revision proceedings, are generally disposed of to the National Consumers Cooperative Federation (NCCF),and other cooperative societies approved by the Central Govt./State Govts.,in case of consumer goods. Small portion of consumer goods is sold in retail also by the Customs formations. Other confiscated goods such as industrial goods and raw materials are disposed of through public Auction/Tenders.

(d) & (e): No, Sir. However, while disposing of goods through Public Auction/Tender, wide publicity about the venue and the goods, is given in the local newspapers.